

Success **STORIES**

Army HSMS Program

WhiteSandsMissileRange, NewMexico

Joint Services Hazardous Material Minimization Center



WhiteSands



White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) covers 2 million acres, an area about the size of Delaware and Rhode Island combined. The installation tests missiles and weapons systems for various customers, such as the Army, Navy, Air Force, and even other nations.

After much consideration, WSMR identified the best ways to carry out its obligations to protect the environment and comply with federal, state and local environmental laws. The control, management and reduction of hazardous materials and waste are an essential part of this effort.

"Purple"Partnership

Though WSMR is an Army installation, it has a large Navy presence. In 1994, the Navy opened a Hazardous Material Minimization Center (HMMC) to service Navy activities at WSMR, using business practices from the Navy's Consolidated Hazardous Material Reutilization and Inventory Management Program (CHRIMP). Implementation of CHRIMP significantly reduced the amount of hazardous material procured, stocked, distributed to customers and eventually disposed of as waste.

WSMR Army directorates soon joined and helped fund this successful operation. The commanding general of WSMR visited the center and proposed creating a joint-services or "purple" center that would provide services to all of WSMR.

JointSuccess

The Joint Service Hazardous Material Minimization Center (JHMMC) opened in April 1995 with an Army-Navy staff and two co-managers. WSMR sought to establish uniform policy,



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guidance and requirements for the life-cycle control and total quality management of its hazardous materials, based on this concept: "Better managed hazardous material results in less hazardous material used, a reduced risk for state violations, guaranteed issue of Material Safety Data Sheets and reduced waste."

This success led Army Material Command to select WSMR as one of the first sites to implement the Hazardous Substance Management System (HSMS), the Department of Defense's standardized hazardous substance tracking system.

HSMS was implemented at WSMR in Fiscal 1997. The JHMMC provides service to all of WSMR and has reduced costs of hazardous material procurement and hazardous waste disposal. Superb personnel and command support have made White Sands Missile Range a leader in hazardous material management.

FOR **more**
Information

Thermon Smith
Army co-manager
(505) 678-5998
DSN 258-5998
smith@wsmr.army.mil

Tom Coleman
Navy co-manager
(505) 678-7899
DSN 258-5998
tom_coleman@nawcws2.wsmr.army.mil

